

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated January 22, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-8 and 10-19 are rejected by the Examiner. With this response, claim 1 and 6 are amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-8 and 10-19 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-8, and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,888,608 B2 issued to Miyazaki et al. (hereinafter "Miyazaki") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,511,591 issued to Abe (hereinafter "Abe").

The rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki in view Abe is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device having a combination of features including "forming a sealant in a peripheral area surrounding the active area of the second substrate, wherein the second column spacer is outside of the peripheral area." Applicants submit that Miyazaki does not teach or suggest at least this feature of the claims.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner relies on Abe to cure the deficiencies in the teachings of Miyazaki. In particular, the Examiner cites Abe as teaching "wherein said forming a liquid crystal layer comprises dispensing liquid crystal on one of the first and second substrates prior to the bonding first and second substrates to each other." Applicants do not reach the Examiner's conclusion regarding the teaching of Abe. Applicants submit that Abe does not cure the deficiency in Miyazaki regarding "forming a sealant in a peripheral area surrounding the active area of the second substrate, wherein the second column spacer is outside of the peripheral area" as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Miyazaki and Abe, analyzed singly or in combination do not teach the combination of features recited in claim 1, and that claim 1, and claims 2-8 and 10-19 depending from claim 1 are each allowable over Miyazaki and Abe.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps

necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: April 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By Valerie P. Hayes *Ry. No.
53,005*
for
Rebecca G. Rudich
Registration No. 41,786
McKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorneys for Applicants

DC:50462021.1



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By Valerie P. Hayes Rg. #
for 53,005
Rebecca G. Rudich
Registration No. 41,786
McKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorneys for Applicants

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